

The official paper announces that now Mexico has refused to cede all of the territory east of the Rio Grande, the whole of New Mexico and Upper and Lower California, together with the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, it is the intention of our Government to wage a war of redoubled vigor; that hitherto "we have shown humanity to her," but now, after the rejection of "demands conceived in a spirit of signal justice and moderation," she must be made to "feel the full pressure and power of war."

In his letter of October 4 this writer remarks: "The Administration have determined to pursue the war with redoubled energy. What is the object in view does not distinctly appear. It cannot be to force a peace, for that appears to be out of the question. A war of extermination is threatened on our part, but it is doubtful how far the Government will be supported in prosecuting such a war, when it is manifest that every honorable end that we have in view can be attained by withdrawing the troops to a certain line, which we may adopt as our boundary."

"The first object would be to relieve our forces which are already in Mexico. According to Col. Child's letter of September 10th, he, with his force of one thousand men, is hemmed in at Puebla, and Major Lally at Jalapa. General Lane and Cushing will soon push forward with their brigades to their relief. Letters from Col. Hughes's command state that they have reached the National Bridge, and have driven the guerrillas away from before them, on every side. But still the guerrillas hang about them."

"The financial arrangements and prospects of the Treasury will be essentially altered by the present state of things. It was only last week that Mr. Walker congratulated himself upon the fact that another loan would not be wanted. If we are to pursue the war, merely with a view to punish the Mexicans for refusing to treat, we shall want a new loan of fifty millions. To inflict adequate and certain punishment, according to the plan of the Union, we must send an army of fifty thousand men to ravage and desolate the country."

In another letter the same writer, generally well informed, states that—"Some of the Cabinet are in favor of establishing a Government in Mexico, and taking possession of the country as a part of the territory of the United States, no matter what may be its cost in blood and treasure. The President must soon decide what to do. He has been advised by some to do what Gen. Taylor proposed two days after the battle of Monterrey; that is, to 'draw a line and withdraw the troops.' Now is the time for the President to take the lead in this policy, for there is scarcely a doubt that it will be embraced by Congress and the people."

The generally well-advised correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger also says he "has reasons" to believe that various opinions prevail in the Cabinet as to the extent to which war ought to be prosecuted. May these diverse views result in the course which wisdom, justice, and the true glory of the country demand!

In the absence of further advices from Mexico, to which all eyes and hearts are turned with painful solicitude, we subjoin a letter from our sagacious New Orleans correspondent, expressing the views of an intelligent mind near the theatre of war on the melancholy and alarming state to which our Administration has brought the country:

NEW ORLEANS, SEPTEMBER 27, 1847.
MESSRS. GILES & SHAWTON:
You will have received the advice of the capture of the capital by Gen. Scott. We are all in a state of great anxiety to learn who have fallen, as there is no doubt the fighting has been the most severe that has yet taken place, and that our loss has been very heavy.

We have advices from Vera Cruz, via Pensacola, by the brig Osceola at that port, which, though not so late as by the steamer arrived here, give some details which we did not receive direct; among others that hostilities were recommenced by the Mexicans attacking Gen. Worth's division with a great superiority of force, and after hard fighting they were repulsed with a loss of 2,500 men—Worth suffering very heavily also, and he himself severely though not dangerously wounded. I do not credit the reported death of Gen. Price (LAW and SMITH); indeed, that of the former is even by Mexican accounts said to be very uncertain. Among other circumstances that renders the report doubtful is, that it is under date of 10th of September, previous to the general battle, and when we have nothing to lead us to believe that any but Worth's division had, up to that time, been engaged. I am afraid that it may be some time before this painful state of suspense will be relieved, as the J. L. Day has had a very short passage, and, besides, the roads appear now to be more completely in possession of guerrillas than ever, and the regular communications entirely cut off. One report says Gen. Scott's loss was 3,000 men; another in a letter now before me says, "our losses since leaving Puebla are 3,000 men."

This would include the battles of the 19th and 20th August. In either case, however, all we have or shall get by the war is not worth the sacrifice of the valuable lives that occurred in those few days.

One letter from a good source at Vera Cruz states that Paredes is at the head of 6,000 men on the Jalapa road, with a view to attack the train under General Lane. The latter has 2,500 men under him, and I have no doubt will make good his way.

Gen. Patterson, Major Polk, &c. put into the Mississippi in consequence of the steamer Ann Cuth, on which they had embarked at Pensacola, proving unworthy. They remained at the Balize, and would go down in the N. Orleans. The New Orleans took \$400,000 in gold for the army; \$200,000 more went last week; and now that the flow of specie has ceased from Europe this constant drain of specie for the army will soon be seriously felt. The above with previous shipments make \$1,800,000 that the public prints have announced as having been sent from this port since the 1st of last month, exclusive of a large amount of bills drawn on Mexico by the Quartermaster here.

The present news from Mexico is highly satisfactory as regards the bravery and success of our army, and calculated to gratify national pride, but in other respects I regard it as the most unfavorable we have received, as it to my view destroys the last hope of peace. The question then arises what is to be done? Are we to increase our forces to at least 50,000 men (most of our experienced officers say we will require 80,000) to conquer and keep the country, or are we to follow Mr. Calhoun's suggestion to take possession of a boundary and defend it? One or the other plan must be adopted. Mr. Polk will have to meet Congress under very trying circumstances, and it is really very difficult to say what will or ought to be done.

The epidemic here has rapidly decreased, but really only for want of material. If strangers, and absentees venture to return before a frost we shall no doubt see a large increase on the present number of victims.

No revival of business yet, and great anxiety in the mercantile community for the next Liverpool steamer, as disastrous advices are expected by her as regards losses on produce and protests of bills. There is much distress ahead on the latter account, though I think New Orleans will probably escape on better terms than some other cities.

Thus far the prospects of our sugar and cotton crops are favorable.

We add to the above letter some sensible speculations of the New Orleans Picayune, received last evening, on the recent events and present state of affairs at the city of Mexico:

THE LATE NEWS FROM MEXICO.—Taking it in all its bearings, we cannot but look upon the last news from Mexico

as the most important that has been received from there since the opening of the war. We know how severe were the battles of Contreras and Churubusco. An attentive perusal of our Mexican papers convinces us that in the battles that followed those, and preceded the taking of the capital, the Mexicans made even a still more obstinate resistance, and that the city was not carried until our little army had suffered a loss unparalleled in any of the battles of this war. There is no doubt the Mexicans were preparing for another conflict during the whole time that negotiations were pending. On the day the Mexican Commissioners gave notice that the proposition of our Government for peace was inadmissible, circulars were addressed to the clergy, exhorting them to endeavor to obtain a popular insurrection, and at the same time to the magistrates of the States of Mexico and Puebla with the same object. Herrera, by whom the circulars were signed, as the military commander of Mexico, tells the people to arm themselves with any and every description of weapon within their reach, and assures them that a people determined not to be conquered must ultimately overcome their invaders, whom he enjoins upon them to destroy "by fire and sword."

Meager as our accounts are, they are sufficient to show that the battle at the Mill of El Rey was a hard-fought one. Again, on the 12th, there is reason to believe there was a general engagement. These engagements, however, were but the prelude of what was yet the severest task of all—the storming of the heights and works of Chapultepec and of the citadel, and from some accounts it would appear of the city itself.

Many will perhaps be disposed to censure Gen. Scott for not following up the victories of Contreras and Churubusco by assaulting the city immediately. This, however, it is obvious, was not so easy a task as the letters from his camp, written after those battles, led us to believe. Those letters left the impression that there was no impediment to his march, or that no resistance could be offered unless in the city itself; but the fact that he fought from the morning of the 8th to the night of the 13th before he effected an entrance is proof conclusive that he had yet the hardest work before him. Besides, in granting an armistice, (we say "granting," because it is certain Gen. Scott was requested by Santa Anna, through the British Minister, to take the initiative in the matter), there was a possibility of negotiating a peace, and he had presented him the alternatives of either taking the city at once, without the prospect of obtaining a peace, (for the Mexican Government and Congress had declared its intention of retiring at once several leagues from the capital in the event of its being taken), or to enter into an armistice, by the terms of which neither army was to be reinforced or their fortifications repaired or strengthened. And it may be well supposed that our troops, after the hardships they had undergone in their march from Chalco until they came in front of the enemy's main works—a march of three days, over a broken and difficult country—and after their hard fighting on the 19th and 20th of August in taking Contreras and Churubusco, wanted rest, and possibly might not have been in a condition to attack at once the formidable works between them and the city.

It is not in the great loss our army has suffered along with this intelligence is important. It shuts out all prospects of a peace. The Mexican Commissioners, with Herrera, the peace advocate, at their head, declare that the terms proposed by Mr. Trist were entirely inadmissible, and their ultimatum was equally so to us. We find that the Governors of several of the States, at the very moment that negotiations were pending, were issuing addresses to the people inciting them to rise against their invaders. Even as early as the 23d of August it is announced in the *Diario del Gobierno* that seventy members of Congress had declared their unwillingness to deliberate in the capital while the army of the enemy was threatening it, and they accordingly retired to Toluca. Santa Anna, there is every reason to believe, is still in the field with a force of no inconsiderable strength, and Paredes is said to be between Puebla and Jalapa with a body of six thousand men. We have nothing to look for, therefore, but a prosecution of the war for an indefinite period.

The positions of our two commanding generals—Taylor reduced to the feeblest defensive strength, and Scott cut down we know not to what extent, in an enemy's city of near two hundred thousand population—are such as to demand the immediate attention of the Government. Santa Anna is doubtless still strong enough to menace the valley of the Rio Grande, and there should be no delay in reinforcing Gen. Taylor. With Gen. Scott the demand for more troops must be equally pressing. He is not only in a city containing a hostile population of two hundred thousand, but has Santa Anna in his immediate vicinity, and we have had too many proofs of the cleverly with which he can raise armies to trust to his inactivity. Prompt and energetic action is required of our Government, or much of the work that has been done may have to be done over again. The Mexicans are learning to fight from us, and the Russians under Peter the Great from Charles the Twelfth, and we cannot be too well or too soon prepared for some new demonstration on their part.

OUR ARMY IN MEXICO.
The correspondent of the New Orleans Delta furnishes some additional memoranda of the battles of the 19th and 20th August. The following are extracts from his letter:

"Never have there been exhibited in one day so many individual instances of heroic courage, indomitable valor, and determination in overcoming great and apparently insurmountable obstacles. From one end of the army to the other there prevailed but one feeling and one resolve, and that was victory or death. Our officers set noble examples to their men, which were imitated with as much cool determination as they were set. There was no faltering, no holding back, and there was no corps or command but acquitted itself with honor to themselves and credit to the country. The Regulars added new laurels to those already acquired, and the Volunteers have given a reputation of the noble bearing of their countrymen on the bloody field of Buena Vista to the South Carolina cavalry and the sons of the Empire State have inscribed their names on the roll of fame, and will return home bright ornaments to the States from whence they came."

"The Mexicans also fought as they never fought before; they strongly resisted us at every point, and contested every inch with the strongest determination and even to desperation. They knew that their capital and their all depended upon the issue, and with this knowledge and thus prompted, they threw themselves into the breach as no person ever expected they would—and one of the best evidences of this is the number of killed and wounded on both sides."

"Gen. Scott, at the head of our army during the engagement, received a slight wound in the leg, and, what is very remarkable, no person whatever except himself was aware of it until after the battle was over. A great deal has been said and written in reference to the ability of Gen. Scott as a military man, but those who have not seen him in command and under fire, cannot form any just conception of his abilities. His cool consideration of every thing around him—his quick perception—his firm resolves and immediate execution—equal if not to those of some of the great generals whose deeds have been made so conspicuous in history."

After the works at Churubusco had been carried by storm, the Dragons, under their valiant leader, Col. Harney, were ordered forward to pursue the retreating foe; and afterwards went, like winged messengers of death, their bright sabres glittering in the sunbeams, amidst the huzzas of the light troops, flushed with the victory over the foe. The horses seemed to partake of the enthusiasm of their riders, and dashed forward with supernatural strength, and in this spirit and state of feeling they overtook the flying army, and continued to cut them down to the very gates of the city."

THE LATE CAPT. CAPRON.
A correspondent of the Boston Daily Times describes a small space in the columns of that paper to the memory of Capt. E. A. CAPRON, 1st Regiment United States Artillery, who fell in the late action between the American and Mexican forces. Capt. Capron was a native of the State of New York and a graduate of West Point. While but a young lieutenant circumstances made him the acting captain of his company, which duty he discharged, with but little interruption, for many years, although his promotion to the actual rank was but recent. He served in Florida for several years, and at the battle of Withlacoochee, (his first action,) when the odds against the whites were so fearful in numbers and in the concealment afforded the Indians by the hammock, he led with success the charge of bayonets on which the entire safety of the little band depended. He thus established (while young) his reputation as a brave soldier and an officer of talent. The tears of his young widow—a native of Boston, and a niece of the late Colonel Fanning, of the United States Army—and the cries of six helpless orphans, attest his claim to yet nobler titles—a man of the highest moral worth, a tender and devoted husband and father.

THE MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION.
We extract from the account given of it by the able correspondent of the Tribune, the annexed notice of the late imposing Whig Convention which met at Springfield, Massachusetts:
SPRINGFIELD, (MASS.) SEPTEMBER 29, 1847.
The Massachusetts Whig Convention that assembled this day at this place has been distinguished for greater eminence of talent than perhaps any one convened for a like occasion. Mr. WEBSTER was here by particular request; so were Mr. WINTHROP, of Boston, and Mr. PALFREY, of Cambridge, Mr. GAINSWELL, of New Bedford, and Mr. ARBUTT, of Andover, all members of Congress. In all, there were about six hundred Delegates.

Hon. Geo. ASHmun presided over the deliberations of the Convention, and, on assuming the chair, made one of the most appropriate addresses ever delivered on a like occasion. He discharged the duties of his position to universal satisfaction. JOSEPH BELL, of Boston, was appointed chairman of a committee to draught resolutions. [Already published in the *Intelligencer*.]
On the resuming of the Convention in the afternoon, Mr. WEBSTER spoke for an hour and twenty minutes; and I do not believe I say too much in asserting that on no previous occasion was he more happy in the enunciation of his sentiments. In regard to the Mexican war and the extension of slavery, he was most emphatic in his declarations. The injustice of the former he denounced in terms of the warmest indignation, and toward the latter he expressed his earnest and unalterable hostility.

It is impossible to convey an idea of the loud, continued, and tumultuous applause with which the speech was received. I shall forbear a more extended notice of this admirable speech, because it is soon to appear in print. Mr. Thos. Tilton, an able and well-known stenographer, made a full report of the speech, which will soon appear in the *Boston Atlas*.

Hon. Mr. PALFREY introduced a resolution, additional to those recommended by the committee, declaratory of the intention of the Whigs of Massachusetts to vote for no man as a candidate for the Presidency who was not opposed to the extension of slavery.

I confess I saw no mischief in this resolution; but most able men thought otherwise, particularly Mr. WINTHROP, who deprecated the passage of the resolution in strong language. Some discussion was elicited upon the subject, in which, among others, Messrs. PALFREY, SUMNER, C. F. ADAMS, DWIGHT, of Springfield, and GRAY, of Boston, participated.

The amendment did not pass. The resolutions reported by the committee were unanimously adopted: one of which recommended in the strongest terms DANIEL WEBSTER to the National Convention as the candidate of Massachusetts for the Presidency.

In the evening the Convention dissolved, after a most interesting session.

MONEY MATTERS, &c. IN NEW YORK.

FROM THE EXPRESS OF MONDAY.
The news from the Army and from Europe has completely disarranged the stock market, and effected a large decline, with the market closing in favor of buyers. Treasury notes fell 1/4; Pennsylvania 5/8, 1 per cent. Ohio 6/8, 1/2; Reading bonds, 1/4; Reading mortgage, 1/4; Morris, 1/4; Farmers' Loan, 2/4; Canton, 2/4; Norwich and Worcester, 2/4; Reading, 2/4; Long Island, 2/4; and Harlem, 2 per cent.

The news by the Hibernia is calculated to have an important effect upon affairs here. The great pressure in monetary matters continues, and in the large number of failures there can be little doubt that losses will be experienced here. The news in relation to breadstuffs is calculated to attract to the seaboard a part of the large stocks, unless our farmers are infatuated. The steamer that brought the news which started the grain to market last year, sailed on the 4th of September, thus giving us last year two weeks more of canal navigation than are left us now. This fact should warn the farmers of the necessity for prompt action in forwarding, even if they would have it only stored, where it can be available during the winter.

One *edouk P. M.*—The merchants received their letters about 11 o'clock. Those from Liverpool and London represent the money market in quite as bad a state as the published accounts, and a gloomy prospect for the coming winter. It is, however, very acceptable to learn that the losses by the failures in London will fall very lightly on this city. Some of the banks suffer, but they can bear it.

The remittances for the last three or four weeks have been lighter than usual, and the amount of bills to come back will be comparatively moderate.

The news, however, has made an impression in Wall street; Treasury notes have fallen to 1/4 per cent. premium, with every reasonable prospect that they will go much lower.

DECLINE OF THE GRAIN MARKET.—An English paper gives the prices of grain on the first week of each month, as follows:

	WHEAT.	INDIAN CORN.
	<i>per bushel.</i>	<i>per bushel.</i>
March 1.....	\$2.10	\$1.98
April 1.....	2.10	1.50
May 3.....	2.46	1.50
June 7.....	2.79	1.50
July 5.....	2.13	1.20
August 2.....	1.80	.90

EX-PRESIDENT PAREDES, (OF MEXICO.)
In relation to PAREDES, the *Arco Iris*, of the 18th instant, after mentioning that the Padre Jarauta had left Soladad for Jalapa with a force of three hundred men, well mounted and equipped, with the intention of attacking the first train that went up, says it has reliable intelligence that the ex-President was in the State of Puebla with a force of six thousand men, prepared to prevent any reinforcements from reaching Gen. Scott. It is added that he had declared it was his intention, in returning to his native country, only to serve her in her difficulties, and not to foment a revolution for his personal advancement. Earlier advices state that he had been sick at Tepeaca, from which he had recovered. He had been appointed Inspector General of the National Guard, or militia of Puebla; but the *Arco Iris* shrewdly observes that it is not probable he returned to Mexico to obtain so empty an honor as this. The Government up to the last advices had made no attempt to arrest him in his proceedings.—*Picayune*.

CANALS AND RAILROADS IN THE UNITED STATES, &c.
Mr. DISTENFELD has issued proposals for publishing an entirely new work on the canals and railroads of the United States, to be edited by ORVILLE L. HOLLEY, Esq., late Surveyor General of the State of New York. The work to be comprised in an octavo volume of about 400 pages; containing a description of all the works of internal improvement in the United States, finished and unfinished. Also, giving on the principal railroads tables of statistics as to speed, fares, expenses, earnings, &c.; with notices of works of internal improvement in the British Provinces and Mexico; giving a brief account of the projected canals and railroads extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. The whole to be accompanied by a map of the United States and Canada.

The number of immigrants to Canada who have died in three months on ship board, or after they were landed, is seven thousand one hundred and forty.

A vessel, recently arrived at Great Isle from Londonderry, had when she sailed 366 passengers, eighteen of whom died on the passage, and 120 were landed sick. At Great Isle several of the clergymen in attendance and sixteen of the nuns were sick of the fever.

FROM PENNSYLVANIA.—A letter of the 23d September in the New Orleans Picayune says: "The following-named persons have died of yellow fever on board the steamer: Miss Chapman, E. F. CARPENTIER, J. B. Schenck, surgeon's steward; Hy. Mansfield, quartermaster; Andrew Gardner, landman; John Wilson, Z. C. boy; Casper Gordon, private marine."

TRAGEDY.—The "oldest inhabitant" in these parts has knocked under, and candidly confesses that he has never before known these delicious fish to be so abundant as they are at present. Our waters are actually alive with them. Pick out your line wherever you may, you are sure to find one of the yellow-finned gents in readiness to seize it. Some three or four days ago Mr. John Turner, who resides near the mouth of Britton Bay, took two hundred and seventy-four, at a single sitting, on Tomkins' bar in the Potomac river. Even here this is regarded as an extraordinary feat.

(Leonardtown (St. Mary's Co., Md.) Beacon.

GENERAL TAYLOR.
We have received from Dr. BRONSON, the gentleman to whom it was addressed, a copy of the following letter from General TAYLOR, with a request for its insertion in the *Intelligencer*—a request which we cheerfully and readily comply with:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Camp near Monterey, August 16, 1847.

SIR: Your letter of the 17th ultimo, requesting of me an exposition of my views on the questions of national policy now at issue between the political parties of the United States, has duly reached me.

I must take occasion to say that many of my letters, addressed to gentlemen in the United States in answer to similar inquiries, have already been made public, and I had greatly hoped that all persons interested had, by this time, obtained from them a sufficiently accurate knowledge of my views and desires in relation to this subject. As it appears, however, that such is not the case, I deem it proper, in reply to your letter, distinctly to repeat that I am not before the People of the United States as a candidate for the next Presidency. It is my great desire to return at the close of this war to the discharge of those professional duties and to the enjoyment of those domestic pursuits from which I was called at its commencement, and for which my tastes and education best fit me.

I deem it but due to candidly state, at the same time, that, if I were called to the Presidential Chair by the general voice of the people, without regard to their political differences, I should deem it to be my duty to accept the office. But while I freely avow my attachment to the administrative policy of our early Presidents, I desire it to be understood that I cannot submit, even in this accepting it, to the execution of any office pledged as to the course I should pursue than that of discharging its functions to the best of my ability, and strictly in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

I have thus given you the circumstances under which only can I be induced to accept the high and responsible office of President of the United States. I need hardly add that I cannot in any case permit myself to be brought before the people exclusively by any of the political parties that now so unfortunately divide our country, as their candidate for this office.

It avoids me great pleasure, in conclusion, fully to concur with you in your high and just estimate of the virtues, both of head and heart, of the distinguished citizens [Messrs. CLAY, WEBSTER, ADAMS, McDEVITT, and CALHOUN] mentioned in your letter. I have never yet exercised the privilege of voting; but had I been called upon at the last Presidential election to do so, I should most certainly have cast my vote for Mr. Clay.

I am, &c., very respectfully, your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR, Major General U. S. Army.

F. S. BRONSON, M.D., Charleston, S. C.

MAJOR LALLY'S TRAIN.—We regret to learn that our gallant young townsman, Captain WILLIAM J. CLARK, of the 12th Regiment of United States Infantry, has been severely wounded in one of the attacks made by the guerrilla parties upon the train under the command of Major LALLY, and to which Captain Clark's company belonged. The "Lynchburg Virginian" has a letter from an officer of the United States Army, dated Jalapa, August 25, which gives more particulars of the adventures of the train on its route up than we have yet seen. The train was more harassed than any other, in consequence of the belief that it had a large amount of specie. It met the enemy on the 10th, 12th, 15th, and 19th of August, and cut its way through in every instance, with a loss, in the aggregate, of more than eighty men. Twelve were killed and several of the wounded afterwards died. Maj. Lally received a ball, on the 19th, when near Jalapa, through his neck. Capt. Caldwell, of the Voltigeurs, and Capt. Cummings, of the 11th Infantry, both from Virginia, and Captain Clark, of North Carolina, were severely wounded, the first in the head, and the second in the leg. We sincerely hope that neither are mortally injured.—*Raleigh Register*.

RELEASE OF THE EMANCIPATED PRISONERS.—At length we have the pleasure (says the New Orleans Picayune of the 28th ultimo) of announcing the release of our brave countrymen who were taken prisoners at Emancipation and other places by the Mexicans! It will be recollected that Col. De Ruess, with his command, was dispatched from Tampico some months since to effect the release of the American prisoners. Yesterday the United States steamer McKim arrived in the river from Vera Cruz, having on board a number of these men. About thirty-five of the released prisoners (seamen) remained at Tampico, in the employ of the United States Quartermaster at that place.

MORE TROOPS FOR THE WAR.—The Mobile Advertiser of the 27th ultimo says: "Six companies of mounted men, comprising the Georgia Battalion of Cavalry, under command of Lieut. Col. JAMES S. CALHOUN, of Columbus, arrived here in the course of Saturday and yesterday, and have encamped two or three miles out of the city. They came by land to Stockton, thence to this city per steamer Selma. The troops are in fine health."

The Columbus Enquirer of the 28th ultimo says: "The companies composing the Infantry Battalion left our city on Saturday last, under the command of Capt. Wm. M. NELSON, acting Lieutenant Colonel. They will march, we understand, to Mobile, where they will embark for Mexico. The boys have an arduous service before them. They will be cheered, however, on their way by the reflection that their friends at home will sympathize in their sufferings and glory in their gallantry."

A Rio de Janeiro letter of August 12 says: "Mr. Ton, the American Minister, and family, are well, but had not up to the above date landed, and it was thought he would not be presented at Court until he receives further instructions from our Government. He will in the mean time take a house and remain a private citizen until his instructions arrive. Mr. WALSH, the present Secretary of Legation to the Embassy of Mr. WISE, will remain as Charge d'Affaires."

Mr. WISE will be ready to sail for the United States about the 1st of September. The Brazilians are doing all kind of things to bring themselves to trouble."

FOREIGN OBITUARY.—Among the deaths of eminent men recorded in the papers by the steamer are those of Marshal Oudinot, Duke of Reggio, at the age of 81; M. Francis Franzen, Bishop of Hemsund, in Sweden, known as a poet and historian, 63; and Chief Justice Pennefather, of the Queen's Bench in Ireland. He presided at the trial of Mr. O'Connell.

NAVAL.—The United States steamer Princeton, bound for the Mediterranean, arrived at Fayal on the 6th of August, took on board 200 tons of coal, and sailed on the 9th.

The United States ship Preble, Com. SHIELDS, sailed from Caliao on the 9th of August for California, with \$200,000 on board for the use of the squadron.

STEAMBOAT DISASTERS.—LOSS OF LIFE.—A steamboat accident happened in the Ohio river near Portsmouth on Saturday last, caused by a collision of the steamer Sunbeam with the steamer Motive. The Sunbeam was sunk in twelve feet water, and eight German emigrants who were on board unfortunately found a watery grave. The boat and cargo are a total loss.

The steamboat Mississippi struck a snag near Turkey Island, and almost immediately sunk to her hurricane deck, and was totally lost. Seven persons attached to the company of returning Illinois volunteers and twenty horses were drowned by this disaster.

ACCOMMODATING.—A Baltimore paper says a colored man was taken to the Washington College with the fracture of a leg of such a character as to leave no alternative but amputation to save his life. "An hour was accordingly appointed, and preparation made for the operation, and several professional gentlemen were present with the students to proceed therewith, but, on an attempt to commence the work, the patient became alarmed, and declined it. He was assured that his life would be the price of his refusal, to which he replied that he would rather lose his life than his leg. The case was becoming rather serious, and there seemed to be an insuperable obstacle in the man's resolution, which, if yielded to, would inevitably bring about his speedy death, when Dr. Gibson remarked, somewhat at random, 'But—' calling him by name, 'you see I have invited several of my friends to witness the operation, and if you are determined to refuse it, you will be disappointed.' The poor fellow turned it over to a moment in his mind, and then promptly replied, 'Well, Mass Gibson, sooner than the gentlemen shall be disappointed you may take off the leg.' Thus courage predominated, humanity was satisfied, science was entertained, and the obliging patient is doing well."

FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.
The late rejection by the Mexicans of our overtures for peace has given occasion for one of those periodical bursts of martial enthusiasm to which the official paper at Washington gives way whenever its ill-founded confidence in the pacific disposition of SANTA ANNA and his Government meets with disappointment. The Union of Saturday evening speaks in this wise:
"The character of our war must change. It must be prosecuted with new ardor and with new power. Our enemy must be made to feel its burdens and its evils more and more. She must bear the brunt of its expenses. The inhabitants of her towns must be laid under stringent contributions. Subsidies for our armies must be gathered from her country. Since conciliation is spurned, the strong hand must be resorted to to maintain our rights and honor. Mexico must be made to feel that she now continues the war at her peril—at her peril of incurring all its evils and losses—at her peril of paying the penalty of its further prosecution in terms of peace even less favorable to her pretensions than those which we have already offered. Meantime nothing must be wanting on our part to the most vigorous prosecution of the war. We must pour in new troops upon her, and demand and take from her authorities and her people the means of subsidizing and supporting them in the field."

Now, we respectfully submit that the public has had a surfeit of this. The character of the war has been going to change ever since the first exhibition of Santa Anna's duplicity, when Gen. TAYLOR lay on the Rio Grande without the means of advancing to Monterey. Again and again, the dupe of an extraordinary infatuation, Mr. Polk has allowed himself to be played upon, relaxing the rigor of military operations in the belief that peace, through Santa Anna's influence and good faith, was just at hand. On every such occasion the President has found himself the victim of a woful self-delusion, yet each mortifying disappointment has been speedily followed by a relapse into the weakness of credulity, into the indulgence of vain hopes; and our armies, with inadequate force, or with insufficient supplies, have been obliged to wait after every new success to be paralyzed by the delays of abortive negotiations. The thing was ridiculous long ago; it now begins to wear the aspect of insanity.

But after every successive failure to negotiate the Union has been loud and profuse with just such words as we have quoted above. If any one will take the trouble to refer to the files of that paper at various periods, such as the epoch of Mr. BUCHANAN's rejected proposals, sent to the Mexican Government through Com. CONNER, shortly after Santa Anna's admission into Mexico, or the time of ATCHAF's useless mission, or Mr. TRIST's ineffectual advent upon the Mexican shores, he will find that the Union has been repeating itself with a parrot-like volubility, and with such a display of verbal valor and patriotism on paper, such flourishes of heroic designs and of future performances, that Bombastes and Capt. Bolahdi, rolled into one, with the martial temper of their swords transfused into the pen, could not have produced more glowing manifestos of prowess in advance.

The repetition of the same language which has so frequently preceded disappointment now gives rise to no confidence. "We have talked long enough," says the Union. True: the same remark might have been made long ago. "We must be done with this kind of war, too much like a peace." Well, who made it so? "We must conquer a peace by those means only which are calculated to effect it." Very good. Trust no more to bribes, no more to the good faith of your chosen adept in treachery, Santa Anna. If Taylor had been permitted to march towards the city of Mexico, to concentrate there his forces with those of Scott, the glories of Buena Vista shining his way and catching new brightness and fervor from succeeding victories, there would be no occasion now to speculate as to "those means only" which are calculated to effect a peace. This would not do. No, the happy idea of that masterpiece of diplomacy which would make the Mexican leader the agent of Mr. Polk in Mexico could not be given up. It still remained to be seen whether Santa Anna's permitted return to Mexico might not be productive of pacific results.

Look at the consequences of this mistaken policy, if that can be called policy which is marked throughout by weakness. Taylor is kept inactive on the line of the Rio Grande, while Scott, marching for the city of Mexico by way of Vera Cruz, fights the battle of Cerro Gordo with an army composed in part of twelve months' volunteers, whose term of service is on the verge of expiring. He is left, after his victory, with crippled means. He cannot advance beyond Jalapa until he is reinforced. Slowly he makes his way to Puebla, and there he must wait. In the mean time his communications with Vera Cruz are obstructed by the enemy, he cannot spare men to keep the line open. Every detachment that comes to reinforce him has to fight its way; every train bringing him supplies arrives at the cost of successive struggles. Mr. Trist is with the army to negotiate with an enemy who make no secret of their hopes of cutting off, gradually and by detail, the whole invading force. The city of Mexico, however, is approached, and Gen. Scott fights the battle of Churubusco with nine thousand men. An armistice succeeds; and it is expected that a city of 180,000 inhabitants, in the midst of a populous country, with an army to defend it far more numerous than the invaders, will listen to terms of peace when those very invaders, nine thousand or less in numbers, are three hundred miles from their point of supplies, and liable to have all their communications cut off.

It will be seen by letters from Mexico, published in this morning's American, that the garrison at Puebla has been hemmed in by 4,000 Mexicans for three weeks, and that Major Lally, with 1,000 men, who was on his way to reinforce Gen. Scott, is surrounded and shut up in Jalapa, and cannot venture out. It further appears that about one month has elapsed since the battle of Churubusco before a reinforcement can start from Vera Cruz to attempt to force its way to Gen. Scott's assistance. Gen. Lane left Vera Cruz for this purpose on the 19th with a detachment, perhaps, of some 2,000 men. The whole country, says the letter from Puebla, swarms with guerrillas.

We shall look for the meaning of the Union's assurances, of energy and promptitude, in the future conduct of the war, not to the words themselves, but to the actions which shall follow them. The country is anxious to know what are now the designs of the Administration, and what are to be the means for carrying them out—to know whether the former are wise and the latter adequate.

OFFICIAL.

U. S. FLAG SHIP GERMANTOWN, VERA CRUZ, SEPT. 6, 1847.

SIR: I am again called upon to announce to the Department the death of another valuable officer of the squadron. Passed Assistant Surgeon J. HOWARD SMITH breathed his last yesterday evening at the naval hospital.

The death of this and the other medical officers may in part be ascribed to the extraordinary anxiety and labor to which they were subjected in their attendance upon the sick; worn out in body, though not in zeal and courage, they had not sufficient strength to bear up against the effects of disease when it came upon them.

Doctor Smith was attached to the steamer "Spitfire," and volunteered with Doctor Hastings, of the Mississippi, to take charge of the sick at the hospital, when Doctor Thorne was taken with the fever.

Words cannot express my feelings on seeing these devoted men stricken down by they have been by the epidemic, from the fatal malignancy of which their own incessant labors and watching by night and by day have saved so many.

As a proof of the noble self-devotion of Mr. Hastings, an example worthy also of the character of his lamented companion, Dr. Smith, I subjoin an extract from the "sick report" of the 30th ultimo. I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant, M